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Our Ref: JP/DV/RD

30 January 2019

TO: SHROPSHIRE GPs

Dear Colleague

Future Fit Joint Committee Unanimously Agrees the Future of our Two Acute Hospitals

I am writing to inform you that last night, Tuesday 29 January, members of the Joint Committee of Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) secured the future of our two local hospitals by voting unanimously to have Royal Shrewsbury Hospital become the Emergency Care site and Princess Royal Hospital focus in the future on Planned Care, with an Urgent Care Centre open 24 hours a day, seven days a week at both sites.

As you are aware, the decision follows many years of involvement by members of the public and over 300 clinicians, GPs and social care professionals and a robust public consultation, which brought about an unprecedented response rate from more than 3% of local people served by the hospitals.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all your hard work and input over the last few years. I would also like to reassure you that the decisions taken by the members of the Joint Committee were not taken lightly. They recognised that under either option, some people would have concerns and that there is much to be done now as we move towards implementation, but members were confident that it will lead to improved patient care and experience for our local population.

This is a landmark decision that by securing the £312m on offer from the HM Treasury will lead to the development of both hospital sites to deliver state of the art facilities that staff will be proud to work in and in which patients will be pleased to be treated. It will mean that the Trust can continue with its recent success in attracting and retaining the most highly skilled doctors and nurses to join the talented teams already working across both sites.

No services will change overnight. Robust plans are being developed that include a phased building programme over the next five years. We will continue to keep you involved and updated during this implementation process. Work will continue to identify and mitigate any impacts, particularly on some of our seldom heard groups, and in relation to specific concerns such as travel and transport.

I would like to conclude by summarising which services will be available at the two hospitals in the future and sharing the link to the website where more information will be shared in the next few weeks: www.nhsfuturefit.org

The following services will be provided at the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital:

- 24-hour Emergency Department
- Critical Care Unit
- Ambulatory Emergency Care Unit
- Emergency surgery and medicine
- Complex planned surgery
- Women and children's consultant-led inpatient services

The following services will be provided at the Princess Royal Hospital:

- Planned inpatient surgery
- Non-complex surgery
- Breast inpatient services
- Medical wards
- Women and children's services (excluding inpatient services)

Most people will still receive care and treatment in the same hospital as they do now, as the following services will be provided at both hospitals:

- 24-hour Urgent Care Centre (the majority of patients who attend our A&E departments will receive care and treatment here)
- Adult and children's outpatient services
- Day Case Renal Unit
- Tests (diagnostics)
- Midwife-led unit
- Antenatal Day Assessment Unit
- Early Pregnancy Assessment Service (EPAS)
- Maternity outpatients and scanning

I would like to thank you again for your ongoing support and trust that you will wish to stay fully involved in shaping two vibrant hospitals for your local communities and I would encourage you to contact me at any point if you have any queries.

Kind regards.

Yours sincerely



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